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Defendant(s).

Deadline to File Joint Report:

If plaintiff has not already served the operative complaint on all defendants, plaintiff shall promptly do so and shall file proofs of service within three days thereafter. Defendants also shall timely serve and file their responsive pleadings

1 and file proofs of service within three days thereafter. For record-keeping
2 purposes, the Court will dismiss all remaining fictitiously-named defendants (i.e.,
3 those who have not been named) in the trial order issued. The Court will also set a
4 date by which motions to amend the pleadings or add parties must be heard.

5 The parties are reminded of their obligations under Rule 26(a)(1) to disclose
6 information (without awaiting a discovery request), and under Rule 26(f) to confer
7 on a discovery plan and to file a “Joint Rule 26(f) Report” with the Court not later
8 than the deadline set by the Court. Failure to comply with the following
9 requirements or to cooperate in the preparation of the Joint Rule 26(f) Report may
10 lead to the imposition of sanctions.

11 **Counsel should begin to conduct discovery actively prior to the due date**
12 **for the Report, and at the very least, the parties shall comply fully with the**
13 **letter and spirit of Rule 26(a) and thereby obtain and produce most of what**
14 **would be produced in the early stage of discovery, because with its Trial**
15 **Order, the Court will impose deadlines to complete discovery.**

16 **This Court does not exempt parties appearing *in propria persona* from**
17 **compliance with any of the Local Rules, including Local Rule 16. “Counsel,”**
18 **as used in this order, includes parties appearing *in propria persona*.**

19 **1. Joint Rule 26(f) Report**

20 The Joint Rule 26(f) Report, which shall be filed **by the deadline set on the**
21 **caption of this order**, shall be drafted by plaintiff (unless the parties agree
22 otherwise), but shall be submitted and signed jointly. “Jointly” contemplates a
23 single report, regardless of how many separately-represented parties there are.
24 The Joint Rule 26(f) Report shall report on all matters described below, which
25 include those required to be discussed by Rule 26(f) and Local Rule 26:

- 26 a. Statement of the case: a short synopsis (not to exceed two pages) of
27 the main claims, counterclaims, and affirmative defenses.
28

- 1 b. Subject matter jurisdiction: a statement of the **specific** basis of federal
2 jurisdiction, including supplemental jurisdiction.
- 3 c. Legal issues: a brief description of the **key legal issues**, including any
4 unusual substantive, procedural, or evidentiary issues.
- 5 d. Parties, evidence, etc.: a list of parties, percipient witnesses, and key
6 documents on the main issues in the case. For conflict purposes,
7 corporate parties must identify all subsidiaries, parents, and affiliates.
- 8 e. Damages: the realistic range of provable damages.
- 9 f. Insurance: whether there is insurance coverage, the extent of
10 coverage, and whether there is a reservation of rights.
- 11 g. Motions: a statement of the likelihood of motions seeking to add
12 other parties or claims, file amended pleadings, transfer venue, etc.
- 13 h. Manual for Complex Litigation: whether all or part of the procedures
14 of the Manual for Complex Litigation should be utilized.
- 15 i. Status of Discovery: a discussion of the present state of discovery,
16 including a summary of completed discovery.
- 17 j. Discovery Plan: a detailed discovery plan, as contemplated by Rule
18 26(f), including the identity of all anticipated deponents and dates by
19 which their depositions are to be completed (if possible), anticipated
20 written discovery requests, including requests for admission,
21 document requests, and interrogatories, and a schedule for completion
22 of all discovery. State what, if any, changes in the disclosures under
23 Rule 26(a) should be made, the subjects on which discovery may be
24 needed and whether discovery should be conducted in phases or
25 otherwise be limited, whether applicable limitations should be
26 changed or other limitations imposed, and whether the Court should
27 enter other orders. A statement that discovery will be conducted as to
28 all claims and defenses, or other vague description, is not acceptable.

- 1 k. Discovery cut-off: a proposed discovery cut-off date. This means the
2 final day for **completion of discovery**, including resolution of all
3 discovery motions.
- 4 l. Expert discovery: proposed dates for expert witness disclosures
5 (initial and rebuttal) and expert discovery cut-off under Rule 26(a)(2).
- 6 m. Dispositive motions: a description of the issues or claims that any
7 party believes may be determined by motion for summary judgment
8 or motion *in limine*.
- 9 n. Settlement: a statement of what settlement discussions or written
10 communications have occurred (**excluding any statement of the**
11 **terms discussed**) and a statement pursuant to Local Rule 16-15.4
12 selecting a settlement mechanism under that Rule. Note: If a case is
13 selected for the ADR Pilot Program, the parties may choose private
14 mediation (at their own expense) instead. The parties may **not** choose
15 a settlement conference before the magistrate judge. No case will
16 proceed to trial unless all parties, including the principals of all
17 corporate parties, have appeared personally at a settlement
18 conference.
- 19 o. Trial estimate: a realistic estimate of the time required for trial and
20 whether trial will be by jury or by court. Each side should specify (by
21 number, not by name) how many witnesses it contemplates calling. If
22 the time estimate for trial given in the Joint Rule 26(f) Report exceeds
23 four court days, counsel shall be prepared to discuss in detail the
24 estimate.
- 25 p. Trial counsel: the name(s) of the attorney(s) who will try the case.
- 26 q. Independent Expert or Master: whether this is a case where the Court
27 should consider appointing a master pursuant to Rule 53 or an
28 independent scientific expert. (The appointment of a master may be

1 especially appropriate if there are likely to be substantial discovery
2 disputes, numerous claims to be construed in connection with a
3 summary judgment motion, a lengthy Daubert hearing, a resolution of
4 a difficult computation of damages, etc.)

5 r. **Timetable: complete the Schedule of Pretrial and Trial Dates form**
6 **attached as Exhibit A to this Order and attach it to the Joint Rule**
7 **26(f) Report.** The entries in the “Weeks Before Trial” column reflect
8 what the Court believes are generally appropriate for most cases and
9 will allow the Court to rule on potentially dispositive motions
10 sufficiently in advance of the pretrial conference. The form is
11 designed to enable counsel to ask the Court to set different dates by
12 which the key requirements must be completed. Each side should
13 write in the month, day, and year it requests for each event. *E.g.*, for
14 the expert discovery cut-off it might be “1/11/10” for plaintiff and
15 “1/25/10” for defendant, if they cannot agree. Each entry proposing
16 Court dates shall fall on a Monday, except the trial date, which is a
17 Tuesday. Counsel should ensure that requested dates do not fall on a
18 holiday. The discovery cut-off date is the last day by which all
19 depositions must be completed, responses to previously-served
20 written discovery must be provided, and motions concerning
21 discovery disputes must be heard. The cut-off date for motions is the
22 last date on which motions may be **heard**, not filed.

23 s. **Other issues:** a statement of any other issues affecting the status or
24 management of the case (*e.g.*, unusually complicated technical or
25 technological issues, disputes over protective orders, extraordinarily
26 voluminous document production, non-English speaking witnesses,
27 ADA-related issues, discovery in foreign jurisdictions, etc.) and any
28

1 proposals concerning severance, bifurcation, or other ordering of
2 proof.

3 The Joint Rule 26(f) Report should set forth the above-described
4 information under section headings corresponding to those in this Order.

5 **2. Notice to be Provided by Counsel**

6 Plaintiff's counsel or, if plaintiff is appearing *pro se*, defendant's counsel,
7 shall provide this Order to any parties who first appear after the date of this Order
8 and to parties who are known to exist but have not yet entered appearances.

9 **3. Disclosures to Clients**

10 Counsel are ordered to deliver to their respective clients a copy of this Order
11 and of the Court's trial order, which will contain the schedule that the Court sets at
12 the scheduling conference.

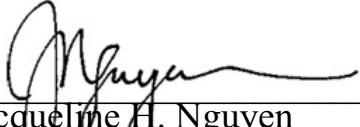
13 **4. Court's Website**

14 Copies of this and all other orders of this Court that may become applicable
15 to this case are available on the Central District of California website, at
16 www.cacd.uscourts.gov, under "Judge's Procedures and Schedules." Copies of
17 the Local Rules are available on the website.

18 The Court thanks the parties and their counsel for their anticipated
19 cooperation in complying with these requirements.

20 IT IS SO ORDERED.

21 Dated: May 11, 2010

22 
Jacqueline H. Nguyen
23 United States District Judge
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SCHEDULE OF PRETRIAL AND TRIAL DATES

CASE NAME:

CASE NO:

Matter	Time	Weeks before trial	Plaintiff(s) Request	Defendant(s) Request	Court Order
Trial (jury)(court) (length ___ days) (Tuesday)	9:00 am				
<u>For Court Trial</u> Lodge Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, LR 52, and Summaries of Direct Testimony		3			
Pretrial Conference, LR 16; Hearing on Motions in Limine	10:30 am	4			
<u>For Jury Trial</u> Lodge Pretrial Conference Order, LR 16-7; File Agreed Set of Jury Instructions and Verdict Forms; File Statement Regarding Disputed Instructions, Verdicts, etc.; File Oppositions to Motions in Limine		6			
<u>For Jury Trial</u> File Memo of Contentions of Fact and Law, LR 16-4; Exhibit & Witness Lists, LR 16-5,6; File Status Report Regarding Settlement; File Motions in Limine		7			
Last date to conduct Settlement Conf., LR 16-15		12			
Last day for hearing motions, LR 7		14			
Non-expert Discovery Cut-off					
Expert Disclosure (initial)					
Expert Disclosure (rebuttal)					
Expert Discovery Cut-off					
Last Date to Amend Pleadings or Add Parties					

LR 16-15 Settlement Choice:

☐

1. USMJ (not available for cases
in ADR Pilot Program)

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3. Outside ADR

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2. Attorney Settlement Panel

Exhibit A

